

The Distresse Ship Carpenter

WELL met well met my own true love
Long time I have been seeking thee,
I'm lately come from the salt seas,
And all love, for the sake of thee.
I might have had a king's fair daughter,
And fain she would have marry'd me,
But I forsook these crowns of gold,
And all love for the sake of thee
If you might have had a king's daughter,
I think you were much to blame
I would not for five hundred pounds,
My husband should know the same,
My husband is a Carpenter,
And a Ship Carpenter was he,
And by him I have a little son,
Or else Love, I'd go with thee.
If I should leave my husband dear,
And my dearest child also,
what have you to maintain me withal,
Should I but with you go,
I have seven ships upon the seas,
And one brought me to land,
with mariners to wait on thee,
And all to be at thy command.
A pair of slippers though shalt have,
They shall be made of beaten gold
Nay, and be lined with silver soft,
To keep thy fine feet from the cold.
A gilded boat my love shall have,
with oars like unto a bow
with mariners to row thee along
To keep thee from an overthrow.
They had not been long on the seas
Before she began for to weep
what weep you for another man
whom you love better than me.
I weep not for your gold she said
Neither do I weep for my fee;
But do weep for my little son,
That should come along with me.
She had not been upon the seas,
Passing days three or four
But the mariners and she were drown'd,
And ne'er were heard of more.
when tidings to Old England came
The Ship-carpenter's wife was drown'd,
He wrung his hands and tore his hair,
And most bitterly he mourn'd.
O cursed be those mariners,
For they lead a wretched life
They ruin'd a
By deluding

